level playing field between non-resident and resident investors at the time of formulating the proposals for the Finance Act, 1999. The Finance Act, 1999, brought about the desired amendment to section 112 of the Income-tax Act, 1961. As per the amended provisions, where the tax payable by any assessee on long-term capital gains arising on transfer of listed securities, exceeds 10% of the amount of capital gains before allowing adjustment for cost inflation index, the excess shall be ignored.

Evasion of Taxes by Automobile Component Manufacturing Companies

2681. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government are aware that a number of companies manufacturing automobile components are indulging in evasion of income tax and excise duties.

(b) whether Government are also aware that M/s. Super Springs and M/s. Garima springs at D-235, Sector-10, Nioda have evaded taxes to the tune of crores of rupees;

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to recover these taxes;

(d) what penel action Government propose to take against the above companies and their allied units and by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR) : (a) Cases of excise duty evasion have been detected. As regards income tax, information is compiled assessee-wise and not commodity-wise.

(b) No case of evasion of taxes has been detected in respect of M/s. Super springs. M/s. Garima springs does not exist at D-235, Sector 10, Noida.

(c) to (e) : Do not arise.

Wasteful Expenditure by CGA Office, Lok Nayak Bhawan, New Delhi

2682. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) Office at Lok Nayak Bhawan, New Delhi is misusing Government money by spending a wasteful expenditure like purchase of a 'fish tank' for about 2 lakh rupees; and

(b) if so, what action is proposed to be taken against those officials who have misused the public money in this manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHIB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No 'fish tank' has been purchased. However, a small aquarium costing Rs. 73,175 was purchased in June, 1998 for Library-cum=Committee room to serve as a partition and also improve its aesthetic look without affecting ventilation.

(b) Does not arise.

Refinance Facility to Cooperative Banks

2683. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA :

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA :

SHRI LAJPAT RAI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not financing comsumption loans of co-operative bank by NABARD;

(b) whether NABARD propose to provide such a refinance facility to co-operative banks to enable them to meet farmer's demand;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) provides short term refinance facilities to Co-operative Banks and Regional Rural Banks basically for financing the production and marketing activities of agriculturists, weavers, rural artisans, industrial Co-operative Societies, Handloom/Handicrafts Development corporations and those engaged in the allied sector. It also provides long-term credit to banks for financing creation of income generating